



The Chimes of Liberty

*A Publication of the United States Air Force Band of Liberty
Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts*

Spring 2001 (Jan - Mar)

Volume 1

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Band of Liberty “Springs” into 2001 Concert Season



SrA Ashley Harding and SrA Jeff Saunders perform during an Ambassadors Jazz Ensemble concert.

HAVING survived another harsh New England winter, the United States Air Force Band of Liberty officially kicked off its 2001 Concert Season with numerous concerts throughout New York state, Massachusetts, Vermont, Maine, and New Hampshire.

The *Ambassadors Jazz Ensemble*, under the direction of MSgt Derek Reiss, performed local concerts in Massachusetts early in March and toured throughout the Lower Hudson River Valley of New York state during the latter half of

the month. Three members of the group were featured on two local radio stations in the Peekskill, NY listening area, WLNA 1420 AM and WBNR 1260 AM. MSgt Derek Reiss, MSgt Todd Nicholls, and SSgt Dave Dell talked to listeners about the mission of the Air Force and Air Force Bands as well as the Band of Liberty's upcoming tour schedule. Plans are already underway for a live performance on these radio stations to an estimated listening audience of 1.5 million later in the year.

The Band of Liberty's woodwind quintet, *The New England Winds*, began their tour season traveling through parts of New Hampshire and Vermont. They performed chamber music in local churches and high schools, and presented a special instrument demonstration to students at Lancaster Elementary School in Lancaster, New Hampshire. The group braved even the worst of winter storms to make their tour a success for everyone involved.

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A Message from our Commander



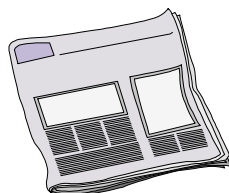
Captain Scott A. Guidry
Commander

Spring is definitely in the air here at Hanscom, and with that comes the start of another exciting concert season with the USAF Band of Liberty. Each of the band's performing ensembles spent this past winter preparing for their tours, and now they are all "off and running" throughout New England and New York.

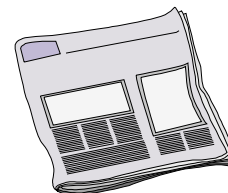
In this edition of *The Chimes of Liberty*, you'll read of our new concert season as well as get a small taste of one of the band's favorite winter pastimes - skiing. You'll also learn more of the band's competitive intramural softball, golf, and bowling teams.

Looking ahead several months, I am pleased to announce that in September, the Band of Liberty is scheduled to produce its first compact disc recording in 6 years. The recording will feature the *Concert Band* and celebrates the birth of this great nation, a monumental event that began right in our own back yard! More information will be forthcoming in future issues.

Thank you for your continued support of the USAF Band of Liberty. I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming concerts!



NEWS BRIEFS



Airman Leadership School Graduation

SrA Jeff Hoyer graduated from Airman Leadership School Class 01-A on February 8 at the Hanscom AFB Patriot Enlisted Club. SrA Hoyer is a trombonist with the *Concert Band* and *Ambassadors Jazz Ensemble*. Congratulations, Jeff!



Intramural Softball and Golf Seasons Begin

The Band of Liberty's softball and golf teams have started preparing for the 2001 Intramural Season. The band has always been a strong contender in both competitions and is the defending Services Commander's Cup Golf Challenge Champion. More to come from what is expected to be an exciting season!

Bowling Season Update

The 2000-2001 Hanscom AFB Intramural Bowling Season has drawn to a close as the band's two teams fell just short of the coveted championship trophy. The teams, "Phish Food" and "Pink Floyd", began the season back in September and finished in third and sixth place, respectively. Members of "Phish Food" were MSgt Rod Carr, SSgt Dodd Martin, SSgt Jeff Saunders, SSgt Dave Dell, SrA Tony Godoy (team captain), and A1C Jon Rattay. "Pink Floyd" consisted of Captain Scott Guidry, SrA Kendra Cliff (team captain), SrA Jeff Saunders, A1C Dustin Hatfield, A1C Jeremy Grant, and A1C Crescent and Dave Seibert. Of special note, SSgt Jeff Saunders was recognized as having the High Handicap Series for the entire season, and "Phish Food" received honors for the High Handicap Team Game. Thanks for a fun season!



Tour Season, from page 1

The Colonial Brass Quintet, performed throughout New York state, western Massachusetts, southern Maine, and the greater Boston area. According to the group's Musical Director, TSgt Dave Arnold, one of the highlights of their tour was the many sounds created by percussionist SSgt Tim Blake.

"SSgt Blake introduced audiences to the unique sounds of the rain stick, which is made from a Chilean swirl cactus, and another percussion 'toy' that utilizes goat's toe nails," said TSgt Arnold. "I am still receiving letters about the goat's toe nails!"

New Horizon, the band's popular music combo, spent the month of March performing a number of high-energy concerts in support of recruiting squadrons throughout western Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Vermont. This group's "rock-n-roll" style of music enables them to reach out to the younger crowds, providing recruiters an invaluable resource to promote the Air Force message to high school students.

The *Concert Band* is slated to perform several community relations concerts throughout northern Vermont and New Hampshire in April, continuing into New York state during May. A tradition with the *Concert Band* is to have a theme during the second half of their concerts. In recent years, themes have included "It Might As Well Be Swing," "A Salute to the Music of Andrew Lloyd Weber," and "A Salute to Broadway." This spring, the *Concert Band* performs the music of the "Kings and Queens of American Music" - highlighting the sounds of the "King of Soul" James Brown, the "Queen of Soul" Aretha Franklin, the "King of the Cowboys" Roy Rogers, the "King of Pop" Michael Jackson, and the "King" himself Elvis Presley.

Aside from supporting the Air Force Bands Mission throughout New York state and New England, the Band of Liberty has been quite active back home at Hanscom AFB. Performing for Airman Leadership School graduations, the Electronic Systems Center Annual Awards Gala Week, and various protocol events at the Hanscom Officer's Club and Enlisted Club are just a few of the ways the band has supported the Air Force mission through music to friends both far and near.

For more information regarding the Band of Liberty's concert schedule, check out the "Concert Schedule" section on page 6, or visit our website at www.hanscom.af.mil/ESC-BA/. You can also call the band's Publicity Department at (781) 377-7914 or (781) 377-4337.



SrA Richard LaCroix of the *New England Winds* speaks to students about the clarinet family.

JOB OPENINGS

The United States Air Force Band of Liberty announces immediate vacancies for the following positions:

Clarinet
Tuba
Percussion (2)
Vocalist

The United States Air Force Band of Liberty is a full time (active duty) Air Force band. Starting salary begins at \$20,000 with benefits including medical, dental, and 30 days vacation annually with pay. If interested in auditioning, please send a tape and resume to:

SSgt Bryan P. Bishop
Director, Human Resources
USAF Band of Liberty
25 Chennault St., Bldg. 1723
Hanscom AFB, MA 01731

phone: (781) 377-7035
e-mail: Bryan.Bishop@hanscom.af.mil

Personnel Spotlight

Quarterly Award Winners

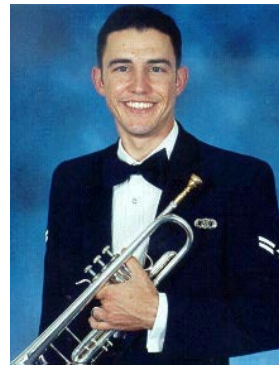
January - March 2001

Senior Noncommissioned Officer



MSgt Peter M. Harrison
Long Island, NY

Airman



A1C Jonathan Rattay
Plano, TX

Ensemble Highlight



from L to R: SSgt Kenny Maurais, SSgt Dodd Martin,
SrA Jon McPherson, TSgt Huey Gauthier, MSgt Steve
Rose, and MSgt Dave Mitchell (group leader)

The United States Air Force Band of Liberty delivers today's sounds with the *New Horizon* rock band.

This top quality group of professional musicians brings to the stage a blend of rock-n-roll, country, and pop. They are equally at home rocking the stage with tunes from N*SYNC to Madonna, movin' and shakin' with a Motown classic from the Temptations, or driving home a country hit from Faith Hill.

The primary mission of *New Horizon* is recruiting. Using their "rock-n-roll" style of music to reach young people, they assist the 319th Recruiting Squadron in promoting the Air Force message to high school students and other potential Air Force members throughout New York and New England.

They also work closely with the Hanscom AFB Officer's Club and Enlisted Club, providing musical support for retirements, club shows, and various other protocol events.

Hails & Farewells . . .



The newest member of the USAF Band of Liberty is **A1C Patrick Brush**. A native of Billings, Montana, Airman Brush is a trumpeter with the *Concert Band*, *Ambassadors Jazz Ensemble*, and *Ceremonial Band*. He is a recent graduate of Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin where he received a Bachelor of Music degree in Trumpet Performance. Welcome to New England!



The Band of Liberty says "Farewell" to **SSgt Jeff Saunders**, a tubist with the Band of Liberty. Originally from Houston, TX, SSgt Saunders performed regularly with the *Concert Band*, *Colonial Brass Quintet*, and *Ceremonial Band*. In addition to his musicianship, his computer "know-how" proved to be an invaluable resource to this organization. Thank you, Jeff, and best wishes to you and your family on this next chapter of your life.

MSgt Rod Carr Retires After 24 Years



AFTER more than 24 years of service to his country and the United States Air Force, **MSgt Rodney P. Carr** retired from active duty on March 30, 2001. The retirement ceremony was held on March 23 in the Main Rehearsal Studio of the Joseph A. Breneman building here at Hanscom AFB. Captain Scott A. Guidry, Commander of the USAF Band of Liberty, officiated the ceremony.

Guests in attendance included Commander of the USAF Band of Flight, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH Major Alan C. Sierichs, Electronic Systems Center's Director of the Commander's Staff Col Joseph Magnone, Electronic Systems Center Command Chief Master Sergeant Frank Holmes, CSMG (ret) Charles Sweeney, CMSgt (ret) Christopher H. Edris, MSgt (ret) Don Johnson, MSgt (ret) David Lasack, and members of the Hanscom AFB First Sergeant's Association.

During the ceremony, Captain Guidry commented on MSgt Carr's unselfish attitude toward his military career.

"I can't think of a friendlier person than Rod Carr," said Captain Guidry. "We all should look at his example and learn from it. Because of the way he lives his life, he is a role model for my own life, as he should be for everyone here."

MSgt Carr enlisted in the Air Force in March 1977 and received his first assignment with Air Force Band of the Midwest, Chanute AFB, Illinois. His subsequent assignments were Clark AB, Philippines; Travis AFB, California; Keesler AFB, Mississippi; Offutt AFB, Nebraska; CincSouth Band, Italy; and finally Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts.

His military awards and decorations include the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, and the Air Force Good Conduct Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters.

As a tribute to MSgt Carr, the Band of Liberty's trumpet section performed stirring renditions of the *Star Spangled Banner* and the *Air Force Song*.

Thank you, Rod, for everything you have given to this organization, the Air Force Bands career field, and the United States Air Force. You will be sorely missed. Godspeed and best wishes on your retirement!

Concert Schedule

Concert Band

April

- 7th, Sat, 7:30 pm, Mt. Anthony Union HS,
Bennington, VT
- 8th, Sun, 2 pm and 7 pm, Paramount Center,
Rutland, VT
- 9th, Mon, 7:30 pm, St. Johnsbury HS,
St. Johnsbury, VT
- 10th, Tue, 7 pm, Berlin HS, Berlin, NH
- 11th, Wed, 7 pm, Kingswood Regional HS,
Wolfeboro, NH
- 28th, Sat, 7:30 pm, Brooklyn Center for the
Performing Arts, Brooklyn, NY
- 29th, Sun, 3 pm, Westerly HS, Westerly, RI

May

- 8th, Tue, 7:30 pm, Newtown HS, Newtown, CT
- 9th, Wed, 7:30 pm, Rocky Point HS, Rocky
Point, NY
- 10th, Thu, 8 pm, College of Staten Island
Center for the Arts,
Staten Island, NY
- 11th, Fri, 8 pm, The Lehman Center,
Bronx, NY
- 12th, Sat, 6 pm, Ellis Island Medal of Honor
Gala, Ellis Island, NY
- 13th, Sun, 2 pm, Saratoga Performing Arts
Center, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 22nd, Tue, 7:30 pm, Gloversville MS,
Gloversville, NY

May (continued)

- 23rd, Wed, 7:30 pm, Watertown HS,
Watertown, NY
- 24th, Thu, 7:30 pm, Ogdensburg HS,
Ogdensburg, NY
- 25th, Fri, 7:30 pm, Palace Theatre,
Albany, NY

June

- 2nd, Sat, 5 pm, Faneuil Hall, Boston, MA
- ** OUTDOOR CONCERTS BEGIN ****
- 20th, Wed, 7 pm, Belmont Hill Club,
Belmont, MA
- 21st, Thu, 7 pm, Stoneham Town Common,
Stoneham, MA
- 25th, Mon, 7 pm, Peabody Institute Library/
Danvers Rotary Club Pavilion,
Danvers, MA
- 26th, Tue, 7:30 pm, Waltham Town
Common, Waltham, MA
- 28th, Thu, 7 pm, Colt School, Bristol, RI
- 29th, Fri, 7:30 pm, Hanscom AFB
Memorial Park, *Summer Bash*,
Hanscom AFB, MA
- 30th, Sat, 7 pm, Town Common,
New Braintree, MA



Ambassadors

Jazz Ensemble

June

- 3rd, Sun, 2 pm, Monument Hall,
Concord, MA
- 4th, Mon, 7:30 pm, Nipmuc Regional HS,
Upton, MA
- 6th, Wed, 7 pm, Holyoke HS, Holyoke, MA
- 7th, Thu, 7 pm, Rochester Opera House,
Rochester, NH
- 9th, Sat, 4:30 pm, Palace Theatre,
Manchester, NH

New England Winds

Woodwind Quintet

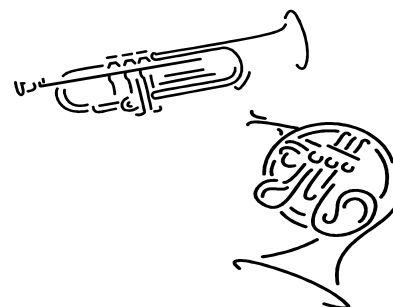


May

- 4th, Fri, 12 pm, Museum of Our
National Heritage,
Lexington, MA
- 9th, Wed, 1 pm, Rocky Point HS,
Rocky Point, NY

June

- 4th, Mon, 10:30 am, Federated Church,
Skowhegan, ME
- 5th, Tue, 7 pm, Lithgow Public Library,
Augusta, ME
- 7th, Thu, 2 pm, Sunbridge Care,
Concord, MA



Colonial Brass

Brass Quintet

June

- 3rd, Sun, 2 pm, Yonkers, NY
- 4th, Mon, 7 pm, Kingston HS,
Kingston, NY

**** Please note that all concert dates
and times are subject to change. ****

Visit our website at
www.hanscom.af.mil/ESC-BA/ to
verify a performance or view
performances not listed,
or call (781) 377-7914 or (781) 377-4337.

Carrying the Tradition of Gliding and Sliding

a commentary by MSgt Dave Long



MSgt Dave Long

IT BEGAN with a small band of NCOs grouped together for a common cause - the snow, the wind in their faces, the feeling of sliding and gliding down white-coated trails. Though retired now, MSgt Dan Sweeney, MSgt Mark Hynes, and MSgt Art Long forged a bond that steadily grew and fostered an interest in a sport of individual freedom and expression — skiing. That was back in the early 80's, and I was just a young airman in the Air Force Band of New England at Pease AFB, NH without a clue what skiing was all about.

By the mid-eighties, the idea of taking some crew rest days, having some winter fun, and boosting unit morale started to catch on. Through the coaxing of my fellow friends MSgt Dan "Fishbait" Sweeney, SMSgt Nick Zaricki, TSgt Kevin "Big Bird" Barnett, and MSgt Art Long, I decided to try out this thing called skiing.

We went to Gunstock Ski Area in Gilford, NH, a picturesque ski resort located above Lake Winnepesaukee. I took a beginner lesson, and my life changed forever as I fell in love with the sport of skiing. Although I set the record for the most falls in a single lesson at Gunstock - over 60 times in an hour and a half period - I was thrilled nonetheless because the next day, though sore all over, I had been to the summit and skied down - well, it was more like skied 20% of the way and fell the other 80%, but that didn't matter. The year was



Both past and current members of the Band of Liberty enjoy some fun in the snow.

1988, and the tradition of "Band Ski Days" had officially begun.

In 1990, I began organizing the Band Ski Days when the Band of New England became the Air Force Band of Liberty and moved from Pease AFB to its present home at Hanscom AFB, MA. With help from my good friend Sgt Zaricki, I became certified as a Level One Professional Ski Instructor. Even today, he and I still teach part-time at Gunstock Ski Area.

Over the years the band explored many different New England mountains including Sugarloaf USA, Sunday River, Black Mountain, Mt. Cranmore, Ragged Mountain, King Pine Ski Area, Waterville Valley, Temple Mountain, and Mt. Watchusett.

We don't compete or race or any of that. We just go out and have fun, no matter what the ability level may be.

This year, the Band Ski Days achieved a new plateau - an overnight trip to Bretton Woods Ski Area, complete with a moonlit sleigh ride. It doesn't get any better than that! And so, from all of us to all of you . . . "See you on the slopes next winter!"

The list of those who participated and still participate today is long and memorable. Here are but a few of them . . .

FORMER PARTICIPANTS:

TSgt Kevin and Regina Barnett
Roger Ramsey
MSgt (ret) Art Long
Russ Colloran
SSgt Rob Walker
Lee Ann Williamson
David Aspinwall
Dan Toomey
SSgt Scott Weller
SSgt Jeff Sandru
Greg Gazolla
SSgt Chris Jeffery

SrA Jennifer Moore
SMSgt (ret) Charlie Brault
TSgt J.R. Erb
MSgt (ret) Bob Sinclair
MSgt (ret) Mark Hynes
SrA (ret) Brian Checket
MSgt (ret) Carolyn DeKock
Keyle Kosowsky
Maria Lacroix
Ray Olczak
TSgt (ret) Mary Ann Jostineau

CURRENT PARTICIPANTS:

MSgt (ret) Dan Sweeney
SMSgt Duane Bateman & family
SMSgt Nick Zaricki & family
MSgt Mac Ranney & family
MSgt Stan Holland
SSgt Lezlee Masson
TSgt Sue Antolini
SSgt Sam Cliff
SrA Diantha Thompson
SrA Gary Steinberg & family
SrA Terry Marsh
SSgt Dave Dell
A1C Dustin Hatfield

A1C Amanda Proctor
SSgt Tim Blake & family
SrA Kevin Bleau
SrA Richard Lacroix
SSgt Bryan Bishop
SrA Mark Craig
Ann Kelton & family
MSgt Greg Sprowl & family
MSgt Kathy Cooper
MSgt Steve Rose
MSgt Pete Harrison
A1C Jon Rattay
A1C Patrick Brush